



MARSHALL STAR

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Lightfoot addresses Augustine report at all hands

Emphasizes no decisions yet made by president based on report

By Jessica Wallace

Marshall Space Flight Center Director Robert Lightfoot held an all-hands meeting with the work force Nov. 6 to discuss the final report released by the U.S. Review of Human Space Flight Plans Committee.

Also known as the Augustine committee, named after its chairman, Norman Augustine, the 10-member panel – appointed in May by President Barack Obama – was assigned to conduct an independent review of ongoing U.S. human spaceflight plans, programs and alternatives. It was

See Augustine report on page 3



Marshall Center Director Robert Lightfoot discusses the Augustine committee's final report during his all-hands Nov. 6.

STS-129 set to launch Nov. 16

Shuttle Atlantis to deliver 14 tons of supplies, spare parts to space station

By Sanda Martel

Because there are no home improvement stores in space, the next space shuttle mission, slated to launch Nov. 16 from the Kennedy Space Center, Fla., will focus on delivering spare hardware to the International Space Station.

Space shuttle Atlantis will deliver Express Logistics Carriers 1 and 2, containing about 28,000 pounds of supplies and

Please see related story on STS-129 Pilot Butch Wilmore, page 2

See STS-129 on page 7

CFC donations pass halfway mark for 2009

By Rick Smith

With \$346,135 in Combined Federal Campaign pledges to date, the Marshall Space Flight Center is more than halfway to its goal for 2009 – \$625,000 – according to David Percival, CFC executive vice chairperson for finance and reports.

Since the campaign started on Sept. 30, the center has received approximately \$8,650 in pledges per day.

"That's a terrific place to be with one month left in the campaign, but we still have a long way to go," said Irene Taylor, CFC executive chairperson for the 2009 drive.

"We're confident the Marshall Center family will continue to show its dedication to those in need and help make this year's campaign another success."

The 2009 fundraising drive ends Dec. 11.

See CFC on page 6

Butch Wilmore, former 'propulsion rep' to Marshall, to pilot STS-129

By Sanda Martel

"Few things live up to expectations, but I'm told launching in the space shuttle and working on orbit is an event that far exceeds preconceived expectations," said astronaut and pilot Barry E. "Butch" Wilmore, as he anticipates making his first trip into space aboard space shuttle Atlantis.

Wilmore and his fellow STS-129 astronauts are scheduled to launch Nov. 16 from the Kennedy Space Center, Fla., on an 11-day mission to the International Space Station. Other crew members include Commander Charles O. Hobaugh, and Mission Specialists Leland Melvin, Randy Bresnik, Mike Foreman and Robert L. Satcher Jr.

Wilmore served as propulsion representative from the Astronaut Office at the Johnson Space Center in Houston to the Marshall Space Flight Center from early 2004 to mid-2008.

"We call it the 'propulsion job,'" Wilmore said, adding that his experience working with the Marshall propulsion team far exceeded his expectations. "The professionalism and pride of the Marshall Center individuals I worked with really impressed me," he said. "I'm so proud of the folks in our NASA shuttle propulsion team – including our prime contractors. All these folks devote so much time and effort to our nation's goals in its human spaceflight program."

"When I grow up I want to be just like them," he joked.

David Beaman, Reusable Solid Rocket Booster project manager, calls Wilmore a "people person," noting that he "went out and got to know our team at all levels – not just the managers."

"Butch realizes that our successes are built not only on technical experience, but on personal



Wilmore, right, talks with Paul Dumbacher, a test engineer in Marshall's Engineering Directorate, during a tour of the East Test Area in June 2008.

relationships as well," Beaman said. "He is such a friendly person. Everyone really enjoyed being around him – both in meetings and after hours as well."

"When he flies on the next mission, we'll be seeing a friend – not just a face on a poster," he added.

Mat Bevill, Reusable Solid Rocket Booster Project motor deputy manager, said Wilmore has a strong technical background and is a "quick learner."

"He asked tough questions and was really engaged during his time with us."

Marcie Sutton, a Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne space shuttle main engine support engineer, said Wilmore was "very enthusiastic" to learn more about the operations of the shuttle main engine when serving as propulsion representative.

"He made an effort to attend our pre-flight readiness reviews in person instead of via telecom," Sutton recalled. "Even when we had team gatherings, Butch was there to show his support."

He quickly became an integral part of our work family and included us in his personal family. He even sent a notice when his youngest daughter was born, along with pictures, so that we were able to share in the joyous occasion of her birth."

Sutton and Wilmore share a common interest: their home state of Tennessee. Wilmore is a native of Mt. Juliet, where his parents still reside. He is a graduate of Mt. Juliet High School and Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville, where he earned both bachelor's and master's degrees in electrical engineering. Sutton is a resident of Lincoln County.

Tim Kelley, formerly deputy manager of the Space Shuttle Main Engine Project Office, recalled a couple of "Wilmore stories."

"Butch is one of those guys everybody feels extremely comfortable around, and he is such a joy to talk to. He really cares about people and showed that when he flew up

See Wilmore on page 3

Augustine report *Continued from page 1*

charged to ensure the nation is pursuing the best trajectory for the future of human spaceflight – one that is safe, innovative, affordable and sustainable.

Lightfoot emphasized that "no decisions have been made by the president based on the Augustine commission's final report."

Based on the panel's published recommendations, Lightfoot said he believes NASA's likely decisions will be:

- Fly out the remaining space shuttle flights and retire the fleet in 2011; or extend the shuttle at a lower flight rate through 2015
- End U.S. participation in the International Space Station at the end of 2015; or extend the nation's participation until 2020
- Use U.S. government-provided systems such as Ares I and Orion; or use commercial/international transportation service
- Use a heavy-lift vehicle with shuttle heritage; or use a vehicle with the Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle heritage
- Land with surface exploration; or go to a wider variety of destinations with deferred landing

As of now, he said, the Marshall Center will continue to meet the goals of NASA's original plan: transitioning from the Space Shuttle Program to the Constellation Program.

Lightfoot praised the Marshall team's recent successes, including the Oct. 28 launch of the Ares I-X test rocket;

and the successful Oct. 9 lunar impact of the Lunar Crater Observation and Sensing Satellite, or LCROSS, seeking evidence of water ice on the moon's surface.

"What a launch!" Lightfoot said of the Ares I-X test flight. "It was so impressive to be there and to know it was your work."

Lightfoot also announced that Marshall will begin offering a buyout plan later in November to civil service employees who are eligible to retire. The plan is aimed at rebalancing the center's work force. "I want to assure you that this has nothing to do with the Augustine review," he said.

The Marshall Center's Office of Human Capital expects to submit the buyout plan to NASA Headquarters next week. More details will be available in coming weeks.

"Thank you so much for what you do," Lightfoot said. "Keep it up. We'll get an answer soon, I hope [on NASA's future direction]."

Lightfoot encouraged team members to continue the conversation. "Please comment on my video blog site, 'Launching Conversations,'" he said. "I've had really good comments submitted. Go on there and try it out."

To view Lightfoot's blog, visit <https://conversation.msfc.nasa.gov/>.

Wallace, an AI Signal Research Inc. employee and the Marshall Star editor, supports the Office of Strategic Analysis & Communications.

Wilmore *Continued from page 2*

from Houston in less than desirable weather to attend my retirement from NASA at the Rustic Lodge in January. He presented me with one of his name tags that had flown in space. The other two were for his best friend and his kids. It was such an honor and show of sincerity on his part. He is a family man and has two young children that he adores." Wilmore had three name tags that had flown in space because the astronaut who performs vehicle close-outs on the launch pad immediately preceding a shuttle mission traditionally hands his name tag to a crew member about to launch. Wilmore had worked close-outs on three previous launches.

Kelley, who is now with Jacobs

Engineering, Science and Technical Services Group of Huntsville, recalled the time Wilmore was flying out of Kennedy Space Center in a T-38 aircraft that collided with some vultures. The mishap required him to shut down one engine and perform an emergency landing at Kennedy's shuttle landing strip. Allen Twisdale, a Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne engineer working in the Space Shuttle Main Engine Project Office, drew a rendering of the incident, creating a "caricature" that was presented to Wilmore. The drawing depicts Wilmore in a T-38 with eviscerated birds flying in all directions. A copy hangs in the project office on the sixth floor of Building 4202.

Perhaps Steve Cash, manager of the Shuttle Propulsion Office, best summed up the feelings of the Marshall team about Wilmore's mission: "We are always excited when our astronauts launch on a space shuttle mission. But when it's one of our own – and Butch is a member of our propulsion team – we are particularly proud. We are so excited about his participation in this mission and wish him the best."

Wilmore's complete bio is at <http://www.jsc.nasa.gov/Bios/htmlbios/wilmore-be.html>.

Martel, an AI Signal Research Inc. employee, supports the Office of Strategic Analysis & Communications.

Thirty-seven honored with Space Flight Awareness awards

Thirty-seven Marshall Space Flight Center team members received Space Flight Awareness awards Nov. 5 for their outstanding contributions to the space program. They will participate in a number of events planned in their honor at

the Kennedy Space Center, Fla., on Nov. 14-16, including meeting with NASA's executive management and astronauts, and touring the center. A highlight of their award will be witnessing the STS-129 launch scheduled Nov. 16.



Alan Adams
Shuttle Propulsion Office



Rhonda S. Bevel
Delta-Critique



Marceia Clark-Ingram
Engineering Directorate



Cindy Coker
Engineering Directorate



George K. Cruz
Office of the Chief Information Officer



Marjie Davis
Jacobs



James W. Drake
Teledyne Brown Engineering



Roy D. Free
Jacobs



Richard F. Gladwin
Safety & Mission Assurance



Danny Bobo Hand
Jacobs



Rebecca B. Hopson
Office of Center Operations



Larry R. Jackson
Jacobs



Shannon D. Jurado
Jacobs



R. Jeremy Kenny
Engineering Directorate



Louis E. Landry III
Jacobs



Jeffery L. Leak
Engineering Directorate



Kelly L. Looney
Office of Strategic Analysis & Communications



Joe Matus
Engineering Directorate



Mark McCutchen
SAIC



Stephen L. Miller
Engineering Directorate

See Space Flight Awareness on page 5



Robby L. Newton
Engineering Directorate



Sam Ortega
Shuttle Propulsion Office



Brad T. Perkins
Ares Projects



Scott Reeves
Colsa Corp.



Laura Richerson
Colsa Corp.



William O. Robertson
Penn State



Timothy A. Self
Self and Associates



Kathryn R. Shelton
Office of the Chief Counsel



Eric M. Shoemaker
Jacobs



Holly W. Snow
Schafer Corp.



David D. Stephenson
Science & Mission Systems Office



Louise L. Strutzenberg
Shuttle Propulsion Office



Chris Traylor
Engineering Directorate



Marie E. Webb
Bastion



Pamela D. White
Office of Procurement



Michael C. White
Office of the Chief Financial Officer



Ernest R. Wright
Science & Mission Systems Office

Taylor also encourages team members to take part in CFC's other vital aspect: volunteerism. Numerous local charitable organizations continue to seek help with various pre-holiday activities during CFC Community Service Days:

- Operation Stand Down Huntsville needs volunteers Nov. 13 to help provide counseling, medical examinations and other support to local homeless veterans.
- The Greater Huntsville Humane Society is looking for volunteers Nov. 13 to help with sheltered animals.
- Habitat for Humanity will need a large number of volunteers Dec. 3 for renovating homes for families in need.

- CASA of Madison County is seeking volunteers to paint handicapped-accessible ramps Dec. 4.
- Christmas Charities' "Operation Believe" program needs help throughout November to wrap and prepare toys and other gifts.
- Christmas Charities' Emergency Walk-ins program, serving individuals with last-minute holiday needs, is seeking volunteers Dec. 21-23.

For more information on any of these activities or to volunteer, go to Inside Marshall and click on the CFC logo.

Smith, an AI Signal Research Inc. employee, supports the Office of Strategic Analysis & Communications.

Get on the bus!



At left, Marshall Center engineer Paul Crawford, who chairs the Constellation Safety & Engineering Review Panel in the Safety & Mission Assurance Directorate, demonstrates the "Jaws of Life" rescue tool during a Marshall Combined Federal Campaign bus tour Nov. 3. Crawford volunteers 12 hours per week with the Huntsville-Madison County Rescue Squad. At right, Marshall team members, from left, Chrisa Hall, Marla Marshall, Kristy Hill and Julie Clift explore the Huntsville Botanical Gardens – another local charitable organization supported by the CFC. That bus tour took place Nov. 5. To sign up for a bus tour or to request that more tours of local agencies and organizations be added, visit <http://cfc.msfc.nasa.gov/CFM/bus1.cfm>.

spare parts, that will be installed on the station's truss, or backbone, to sustain operations aboard the orbiting science facility after the shuttles are retired.

Atlantis' 11-day flight will be commanded by space veteran Charles O. Hobaugh. Other crew members include Pilot Barry E. Wilmore and Mission Specialists Leland Melvin, Randy Bresnik, Mike Foreman and Robert L. Satcher Jr. The launch is set for 1:28 p.m. CST.

The shuttle is scheduled to arrive at the space station Nov. 18. While docked, Atlantis' crew will conduct three spacewalks to transfer the supplies and parts from the shuttle's payload bay to the space station. The parts will sustain the space station's electrical, plumbing, air conditioning, communications and robotics systems.

At the end of the flight, Atlantis will return Expedition 20-21 Flight Engineer Nicole Stott to Earth after her more than two-month stay aboard the



A canister containing the payload for the STS-129 mission to the International Space Station is secured at the launch pad at the Kennedy Space Center before installation in space shuttle Atlantis' payload bay.

orbiting facility.

For more information about the STS-129 mission, visit http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/shuttle/shuttlemissions/

sts129/index.html.

Martel, an AI Signal Research Inc. employee, supports the Office of Strategic Analysis & Communications.

Classified Ads

To submit a classified ad to the Marshall Star, go to Inside Marshall, to "Employee Resources," and click on "Employee Ads — Submit Ad." Ads are limited to 15 words, including contact numbers. No sales pitches. Deadline for the next issue, Nov. 19, is 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 12.

Miscellaneous

Bunk beds, all wood, painted white, complete with mattresses, \$125. 651-2257

Kasson pool table, model-Auburn, fruitwood, Queen Anne feet, leather pockets, all accessories, \$2,500. 880-6563

Snapper high-vacuum riding mower, 30-inch cut, needs new 12.5-hp engine, \$100. 325-0085

Antique-style six-light chandelier with shades, \$50. 772-7222

Alabama print, "The Tradition Continues" signature edition, shrink wrapped, \$395. 585-3594

Visioneer flatbed scanner, \$7; Ryobi gas weed eater with leaf-

blower attachment, \$135. 837-6776

Computer, 3.4Ghz, 1.5 Gigs ram, 70Gig HD, SLI Video, Windows XP, \$375. 830-6799

Sony DVP-CX995V 400 Disk Mega DVD/CD changer, \$160. 520-1970

Seagull S6 Original, acoustic guitar, HS case, \$350. 550-0511

Phalzgraff Yorktowne stoneware, 10 five-piece settings, many miscellaneous pieces, baking dishes, platters, 78 pieces. 653-5799

Leaf net for 16x32-foot swimming pool, \$75. 883-2653

Sunvision Pro 28LE commercial tanning bed, 28 bulbs, requires 220V outlet, \$1,500. 755-1580

Vehicles

2008 Maxima 3.5 SE, black, tan interior, loaded options, leather, 26k miles, \$22,000. 431-1556

2005 Honda Pilot EX-L, sun roof, leather, running boards, roof rack, 47k miles, \$18,500. 881-8550

2005 Ford F-150 Lariat extended cab truck, 6.5 FT bed and cover, \$15,900. 722-8064

2005 Honda Rebel motorcycle, 250cc, 1,700 miles, \$2,100 or make offer. 361-9796

2003 Dodge Ram 1500 quad cab truck, leather, bedliner, full chrome package, \$8,900. 714-9712

2002 Ford Ranger Super Cab 3.0L, auto, loaded, 79k miles, \$6,895. 379-2658

2000 Nissan Sentra GXE, champagne color, 151k miles, \$3,300. 585-0682

1999 Jeep Wrangler, soft top, 4WD, CD, CC, \$6,300. 430-3566

1996 Nissan Pathfinder LE, 4WD, four door, auto, V6, leather, sun roof, \$1,500. 783-7543

1995 Toyota Camry LE, 2.2L, white, 125k miles, \$2,450. 230-6650

1993 GMC diesel white pickup truck, \$3,600. 379-4010

1992 Dodge Dakota, tan/green exterior, tan interior, 58k miles, \$3,500. 298-1126 or julieg1227@gmail.com

14-foot aluminum boat, 20 HP Mercury, trailer, \$950 obo. 205-260-6703

Suzuki Boulevard C50 motorcycle cruiser, black, 12,435 miles, \$4,100. 509-0196

Wanted

Filing cabinet, preferably wood. 772-7222

Houses/offices to clean, available evenings/weekends, gift certificates available. 777-8595 leave message

Child high chair, must be in good condition. 345-2226 leave message

Houses to tile, floors, bathrooms, tubs, showers, backslashes; will hang Christmas lights, insured. 468-8906

Free

Two 1-year-old female Great Pyrenees, one has badger face. 656-6755

Touching history

Morgan Burns, a student at the Tennessee School for the Blind in Nashville, enjoys hands-on exploration of the J-2 rocket engine outside Building 4200 at the Marshall Space Flight Center. Morgan was among the nearly two-dozen visually impaired students who took part in the school's annual field trip to Marshall on Nov. 3. They toured facilities and met with NASA engineers and researchers who encouraged them to pursue their interests in science, math and the space program. The school serves kindergarten through 12th-grade students and the visually impaired community across Tennessee. The visit was hosted by Marshall's Office of Diversity & Equal Opportunity, working with the Office of Academic Affairs to inspire and engage young people to seek careers in NASA and the aerospace industry.



Marshall to celebrate Native American Heritage Month on Nov. 17

The Marshall Space Flight Center will hold its annual Native American Heritage celebration Nov. 17 in the Building 4200 lobby and the courtyard.

Participants will enjoy authentic foods, song, dance and

demonstrations. Performing will be Little Big Mountain, a member of the Comanche/Mohawk nation from Gainesville, Fla., and his dance troupe. Marshall team may sample fry bread and buffalo stew; watch demonstrations of friction-based campfire building and other primitive tools; and explore an authentic Native American lodge and teepee.

Displays and demonstrations will be held in the courtyard from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Food samples will be available in the 4200 lobby from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

In the event of rain, outdoor activities will be moved to Building 4203, Room 2004.

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Editor: Jessica Wallace

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